

So I am optimistic about the future. I think the Copelands' daughter will have a good time being a doctor, just like her father did. I think we will make meaningful progress in this session. The bipartisan votes are out there. Nothing can stop it unless the votes aren't scheduled or we decide not to talk. We've got to schedule the votes, and all of you know I'm always willing to talk. [*Laughter*]

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:57 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dr. Lanny R. Copeland, president, American Academy of Family Physicians, his wife, Mica, and their daughter, Mary Anne.

### **Statement on the Earthquake in Greece**

*September 8, 1999*

On behalf of all Americans, Hillary and I extend our profound sympathy to the loved ones of those who have lost their lives and to those injured in yesterday's earthquake in Greece. Last month, people around the world were moved by Greece's generous assistance to Turkey in the wake of the devastating earthquake that struck near Istanbul. Now we have seen the same spirit of cooperation in President Demirel's pledge of support for the Greek people in their hour of need. We, too, are prepared to help the Greek Government respond to the disaster.

### **Message to the Senate Transmitting the Dominican Republic-United States Stolen Vehicle Treaty With Documentation**

*September 8, 1999*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Dominican Republic for the Return of Stolen or Embezzled Vehicles, with Annexes, signed at Santo Domingo on April 30, 1996. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the

Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of stolen vehicles treaties being negotiated by the United States in order to eliminate the difficulties faced by owners of vehicles that have been stolen and transported across international borders. When it enters into force, it will be an effective tool to facilitate the return of U.S. vehicles that have been stolen or embezzled and taken to the Dominican Republic.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty, with Annexes, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
September 8, 1999.

### **Message to the Senate Transmitting the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings**

*September 8, 1999*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 15, 1997, and signed on behalf of the United States of America on January 12, 1998. The report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention is also transmitted for the information of the Senate.

In recent years, we have witnessed an unprecedented and intolerable increase in acts of terrorism involving bombings in public places in various parts of the world. The United States initiated the negotiations of this convention in the aftermath of the June 1996 bombing attack on U.S. military personnel in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in which 17 U.S. Air Force personnel were killed as the result of a truck bombing. That attack followed other terrorist attacks including poison gas attacks in Tokyo's subways; bombing attacks by HAMAS in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem; and a bombing attack by the IRA in Manchester, England. Last year's terrorist attacks upon United States embassies in